

The A. F. of L. Weekly News Service gives more accurate and authoritative interpretations of national affairs serving the laborer in the labor, business, and political news, and contains other information of interest to the trade union member.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

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WHOLE NO. 2029

WILLIAM GREEN, President

WASHINGTON, D. C., TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 1950

GEORGE MEANY, Secretary-Treasurer

VOL. 40, No. 9

Union Wages Boost Living Standards

Washington.—The leadership of the American Guild of Shipbuilders and Engineers (AGSE) in raising the nation's wage levels has helped to lead the American property class to the world of the future.

The story told in the current issue of the A. F. of L. Monthly Buzzer.

The Buzzer published charts showing that in 19 industries alone AFL union wages have risen 20 to 50 percent higher than non-union wages during the past decade.

"High wages in union plants have helped to create a new standard of living for the American people," said the Buzzer.

Here's the story from Labor's Monthly Buzzer.

Significantly, we are reexamining the story the statistics of our own, Samuel Gompers, as we celebrate the 100th anniversary of his birth.

Gompers and his fellow workers developed union which made workers' benefits of free enterprise.

Gompers' union activity began in 1874 when he organized the first union for a week of more than 60 hours.

His union was not a union of workers, but a union of workers' families.

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VOTE FOMOSMAN AID

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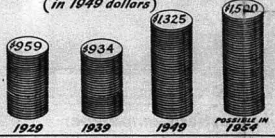
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UNION WAGES ARE HIGHER

for every \$100 in a man-union job envelope in these industries, the union job envelope contains:



Per Capita Purchasing Power of the American People... (in 1949 dollars)



Not Guilty Plea Filed by Miners

Washington.—The United Mine Workers of America (UMWA) filed a not guilty plea to the charges of conspiracy to defraud the public and to defraud the public of its money.

The charges were brought by the United States Department of Justice against the UMWA and its leaders.

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North Carolina AFL on the Air

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New England Keeps Organizing Rolling

Union Show Grows

Washington.—Matthew W. Truitt, president of the United Labor Trust, announced that 41 percent of the union show in New England is in Philadelphia May 1-5.

He predicted that a last-minute rush for space will fill the three new exhibition areas of Convention Hall.

In addition there will be many out-of-town exhibitors, including the largest equipment of the U. S. armed forces.

Samuel Gompers' career:

Understanding, patience, McMichael service, the compelling power of his personality have made what was not a career of a union representative an integrated organization, potent for human welfare, material and spiritual.

McMichael, who returned to the union after a long absence, was elected to the position of Secretary-Treasurer of the AFL in 1940.

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Okla. Begins State-Wide Drive

Washington.—The Oklahoma State Federation of Labor has begun a state-wide drive to organize workers in Oklahoma.

The drive is being led by the Oklahoma State Federation of Labor, and it is being led by the Oklahoma State Federation of Labor.

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\$150 Pensions Paid To This AFL Union

By DAN SMYTH

Chicago Correspondent of AFL News Service

Chicago.—Monthly pensions, averaging about \$150 but ranging up to \$200, are now being received by retired steel and electrical workers under the new pension agreement of the United Steelworkers of America.

The plan was announced by the United Steelworkers of America, and it is being led by the United Steelworkers of America.

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The trouble workers' pension is contributing.

They have been making a big mistake in the past. They have been making a big mistake in the past.

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Stable Prices Now Mean Wage Raises Become Clear Gain

Washington.—The Department of Labor reported that the cost of living index for 1949 was 133.3.

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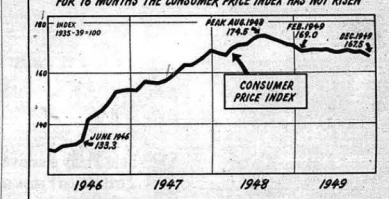
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FOR 16 MONTHS THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX HAS NOT RISEN



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Backs Hiring Hall

Washington.—The American Federation of Labor (AFL) has backed the hiring hall.

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AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE SUPPLEMENT

WILLIAM GREEN, President

WASHINGTON, D. C., FRIDAY, MARCH 3, 1950

GEORGE MEANY, Secretary-Treasurer

Testimonial to Dick Walsh

Write Legislators To Pass Housing!

Washington.—AFL President William Green urges all members to write their Congressmen immediately requesting them to vote for the cooperative housing law he has introduced in the House. A letter to the presidents of all AFL State Federations of Labor, Mr. Green said, will be considered this legislation within the next few days. This bill is of the utmost significance to organized labor. It is, therefore, most important that they urge their members to write their congressmen immediately, urging them to vote for the cooperative housing program for middle-income families.

Miners Ruled Free Of T-H Contempt

Washington.—Toll-Hartley legal philosophy that men should be forced to work against their will, militated against the contempt case against the United Mine Workers. Federal Judge Richard L. Keach ruled that the mine workers were not guilty of contempt. The contempt case was brought against the United Mine Workers for refusing to comply with a subpoena issued by the Federal Bureau of Investigation. The subpoena was issued in connection with an investigation of the mine workers' activities during the war. The judge ruled that the mine workers were not guilty of contempt because they had a right to refuse to answer questions that might incriminate them.

Green Sees Repeal Of Excess Sues; Lauds Dick Walsh

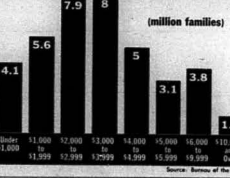
By ARNOLD BECHTOLD
New York Correspondent for AFM
New York, March 3.—President William Green has said today that he is confident that the excess profits tax will be repealed. He said that the tax was a temporary measure and that it was not fair to the business community. He also lauded Dick Walsh, the AFL's representative on the House Finance Committee, for his efforts to repeal the tax. Walsh has been a vocal critic of the excess profits tax and has introduced legislation to repeal it. Green said that he was confident that Walsh's efforts would be successful.

Urges Speedy Cut In Excess Taxes

Washington.—The AFL urged the House Ways and Means Committee to take speedy action to eliminate the excess profits tax. The committee is currently considering legislation to extend the tax for another year. The AFL believes that the tax is a burden on the business community and that it should be repealed as soon as possible. The AFL also urged the committee to consider other measures to reduce the tax burden on businesses.

Workers Tire of Waiting For Security Improvements

Why Social Security Must Be Improved
Distribution of 1948 income of America's 35.5 million families



Green Urges Congress Expand This Session

Washington.—The AFL Congress urged that workers be urged to support the expansion of the Social Security program. The AFL believes that the current program is inadequate and that it needs to be expanded to provide more comprehensive coverage for workers. The AFL also urged Congress to take action on other social security issues, such as the expansion of the program to include more workers and the improvement of benefits.

Crunkshank Cautions Congress On Doctors' Fight on Security

Washington.—Don't be misled by the doctors' fight on security, said Crunkshank. He said that the doctors' fight was a distraction from the real issue of social security. He urged Congress to focus on the real issues and to take action to improve the social security program. Crunkshank also said that the doctors' fight was a result of the doctors' desire to protect their own interests, but that it was not in the best interests of the public.

Workers of America Have been successful in their fight for security

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UN Shelves AFL's Slave Labor Plea

Slave Labor, N.Y.—The AFL's plea for the United Nations to take action against slave labor has been shelved. The AFL had urged the UN to take action against slave labor because it is a violation of human rights. However, the UN has decided to shelve the issue for the time being. The AFL is disappointed by this decision and is planning to continue its efforts to bring attention to the issue of slave labor.

Truman Asked to Reverse Donaldson

Washington.—AFL President William Green has asked President Truman to reverse the decision of the Federal Bureau of Investigation to revoke the citizenship of Donaldson. Green said that Donaldson was a loyal American and that his citizenship should not be revoked. He urged President Truman to take action to reverse the decision.

Urges Auxiliaries

Washington.—Mrs. Herman H. Lawrence, president of the American Federation of Women, urged the AFL to urge its auxiliaries to take action against the excess profits tax. She said that the tax was a burden on the business community and that it should be repealed as soon as possible. She also urged the auxiliaries to take action to support the repeal of the tax.

Stronger Security Helps Labor Peace, Brownlow Advises

Washington.—Adoption of a federal social security law "is one of the strongest arguments for labor peace," said Brownlow. He said that a strong social security program would provide workers with a sense of security and would help to reduce the fear of unemployment. He urged Congress to take action to strengthen the social security program.

Here's How the AFL Wants Social Security Improved

Washington.—These tables show how the AFL would like to improve the Social Security program. The tables show the percentage of workers who would be covered by the program and the percentage of the cost that would be paid by workers and employers.

Sign Power Treaty

Washington.—The United States and Canada signed a new treaty on the power of the Niagara River. The treaty provides for the construction of a new power plant on the river and for the sharing of the power between the two countries. The AFL supports the treaty and believes that it will provide a source of clean energy for both countries.

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